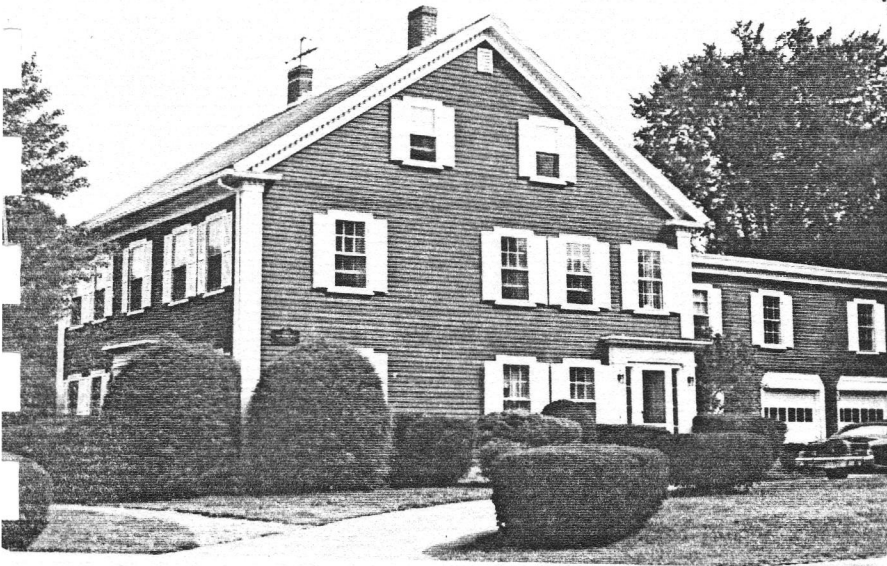


FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
	600



own Lexington

address 170-172 Middleby Road

Historic Name John Bridge House

se: Present residential

Original residential

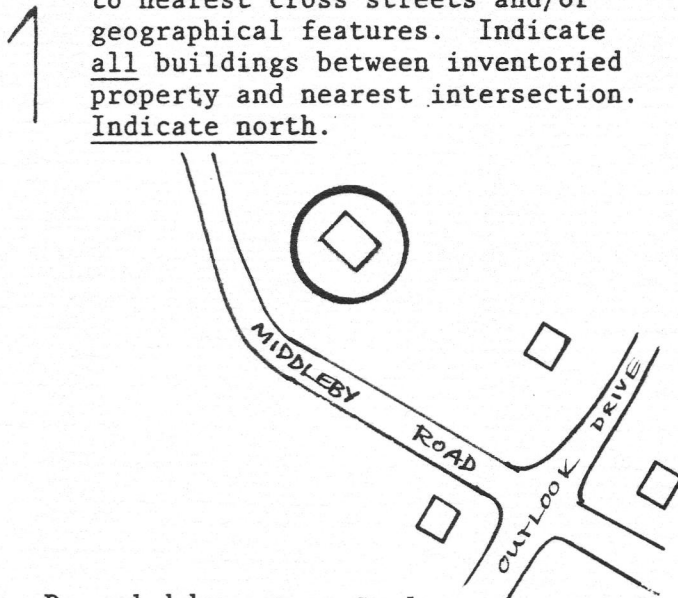
DESCRIPTION:

ate c. 1730 or c. 1835

Source local history, stylistic analysis

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Style Greek Revival

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) either

rebuilt or remodeled (c. 1835); six-room

ell removed (recently)

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 2.258 A.

Setting Across from school, amid mid-

twentieth century residential development.

Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date April, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

This house is now a substantial structure with heavily proportioned Greek Revival decorative features: frontispieces on the south and west sides with panelled pilasters and entablatures with broad frieze and large dentils, panelled corner pilasters, slim frieze boards and a course of large dentils at the eaves.

Whether or not the house incorporates the 1730 structure known to have been on this site is uncertain. The five-bay-wide south elevation could have been the facade of a Second Period house that received a new roof with ridge

(see Continuation Sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

This property was part of the acreage amassed by the Bridge family, original seventeenth-century proprietors of Lexington, then "Cambridge Farms." Before his death in 1738 Matthew Bridge, Jr. had given a house and 100 acres of farmland to each of his four sons (see 271 Marrett Road form for a fuller account of the Bridge family). Third son, John Bridge (b. 1700, d. 1776) received the house on this site, built very likely at the time of his first marriage in 1730.

John Bridge served as selectman and town treasurer. His son, John, who presumably resided on this site, was one of the foremost citizens of his time in Lexington. He served in the army in the 1750s, was a member of Captain Parker's company of Minute Men on the Common on April 19, 1775, served with the Lexington Minute Men in Cambridge and at Bunker Hill, and when Captain Parker died, Bridge became captain. Bridge led the Lexington Minute Men to duty in Roxbury and later became a major in the militia. He served as a member of the Committee of Correspondence and Safety in 1776 and was after the war a magistrate and justice of the peace and assessor.

A large dairy farm was operated here in the second half of the nineteenth century. By 1899 Joseph M. Middleby ran the Reservoir Stock Farm here.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 56. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Worthen, Edwin B., Jr. "The Bridge Family and Lexington." Written for the use of the Lexington School Committee, 1964.

1853 map

1875 atlas

1889 atlas

1898 atlas

1906 atlas

1899 Directory

1906 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Lexington	Form No: 600
Property Name: 170-172 Middleby Road	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

line turned 90 degrees in the Greek Revival period. The presence of mitered window frames would also support a pre-Greek Revival construction date. Further research is needed.

The current owner removed a six room ell to the north and restored the house.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom